

695<sup>11</sup>

855.

# CLASSIC SELECTIONS

FROM THE BEST AUTHORS.

ADAPTED TO THE

## STUDY OF VOCAL EXPRESSION.

---

S. S. CURRY, PH. D.,

DEAN SCHOOL OF EXPRESSION; ACTING DAVIS PROFESSOR IN ELOCUTION, NEWTON  
THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION; FORMERLY SNOW PROFESSOR  
IN ORATORY, BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

"Inalienable, the arch-prerogative  
Which turns thought, act — conceives, expresses too."

*Browning.*

---

SCHOOL OF EXPRESSION,

FREEMAN PLACE, BEACON STREET.

BOSTON.

7.1



Copyright, 1888,  
BY S. S. CURRY.

ELECTROTYPED AND PRINTED BY  
ALFRED MUDGE & SON.

## PREFATORY NOTE.

THE principal endeavor in making this collection has been to select such extracts as will be best adapted to develop the essential qualities of the voice, to furnish the greatest variety of examples for the illustration of the various steps in vocal expression, and at the same time to secure selections from the greatest number of the best authors, and the most varied forms of literature.

The work is prepared in accordance with numerous requests of students, who are teachers in various schools and colleges; as requested, the selections which have been found in actual teaching during the past twelve years, to be best adapted to develop the powers of expression in mind and voice, are here collected together for convenience in study and teaching.

Among the chief peculiarities of the work will be found the number of lyrics, the variety of authors, the many forms of literature, and the contrast between the simplest and the most difficult and complex selections it contains.

The short extracts from page 11 to page 78 have been chosen to illustrate some of the elemental vocal steps in the School of Expression, but no theory is given, because each of the paragraphs serves to illustrate several steps and accomplish different aims as occasion and the needs of the student or class may require. They may also serve to illustrate the steps of any teacher or method. The elemental steps in the work of the school, most commonly illustrated by these paragraphs, are:—

I. Attention. II. Spontaneity. III. Freedom of Tone. IV. Function of Imagination. V. Action of the Mind and Breathing. VI. Purity of Tone. VII. Mellowness of Tone. VIII. Openness of Tone.



IX. Logical Instinct. X. Study of Conversation. XI. Inflection. XII. Subordination. XIII. Support of Tone. XIV. Elasticity of Tone. XV. Control of Breath. XVI. Transitions. XVII. Contrast. XVIII. Rhythm. XIX. Pause. XX. Attack. XXI. Movement. XXII. Contrasts in Rhythm. XXIII. Melody. XXIV. Progressive Transition. XXV. Contrasts in Melody. XXVI. Range. XXVII. XXVIII. Miscellaneous. XXIX.-XXXII. Resonance of Voice. XXXIII., XXXIV. Tone Color. XXXV.-XXXVII. Purposes in Vocal Expression.

These and various other steps illustrated will be thoroughly explained in the works upon Vocal Expression, Vocal Training, and Methods of Teaching Expression now in preparation.

Special acknowledgment is gratefully made to the author, Mr. J. T. Trowbridge, for valuable suggestions and permission to use selections from his works. Acknowledgment is also due Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., for permission to use the selections in their copyright editions of the works of Longfellow, Whittier, Emerson, Bayard Taylor, and Celia Thaxter; also to Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co., for permission to use extracts from the poems of T. B. Read. Special thanks is also returned to Messrs. Macmillan & Co., for the privilege of using extracts from Matthew Arnold and Robert Browning.

S. S. C.

SCHOOL OF EXPRESSION,  
BOSTON, MASS.

## INDEX.

- |  |     |   |     |
|--|-----|---|-----|
| <b>Adams, Sarah F., 1805-1848.</b>             |     | <b>Browning, Robert. — Continued.</b>         |     |
| Nearer, My God, to Thee.....                   | 342 | The Patriot.....                              | 408 |
| <b>Addison, Joseph, 1672-1719.</b>             |     | Through the Metidja....                       | 397 |
| Ode on Immortality.....                        | 195 | Tray.....                                     | 327 |
| <b>Alexander, Mrs. C. F., 1830.</b>            |     | Youth and Art.....                            | 127 |
| Burial of Moses, The.....                      | 227 | <b>Bryant, Wm. Cullen, 1794-1878.</b>         |     |
| <b>Anonymous.</b>                              |     | Song of Marion's Men.....                     | 384 |
| Perished Fern, The.....                        | 81  | Thanatopsis.....                              | 125 |
| Closely and the Bears.....                     | 352 | To a Waterfowl.....                           | 214 |
| St. Patrick Spens.....                         | 249 | <b>Buchanan, James.</b>                       |     |
| Sweet William's Ghost.....                     | 380 | The Old Politician.....                       | 358 |
| <b>Arnold, Matthew, 1822-1888.</b>             |     | <b>Bulwer, Edward Geo., 1803-1873.</b>        |     |
| Church of Brou, The.....                       | 98  | Richelieu's Appeal.....                       | 213 |
| <b>Aytoun, William E., 1813-1865.</b>          |     | <b>Bulwer-Lytton (Owen Meredith), 1831 —.</b> |     |
| The Island of the Scots.....                   | 311 | Aux Italiens.....                             | 418 |
| <b>Bacon, Francis, 1561-1626.</b>              |     | <b>Burke, Edmund, 1729-1797.</b>              |     |
| Of Studies.....                                | 242 | Peroration of Opening Speech                  |     |
| <b>Beddoes, Thomas L., 1803-1849.</b>          |     | against Hastings.....                         | 112 |
| The Sailor's Song.....                         | 340 | Peroration of Closing Speech                  |     |
| <b>Bible.</b>                                  |     | against Hastings.....                         | 144 |
| Twenty-fourth Psalm.....                       | 92  | <b>Burns, Robert, 1759-1796.</b>              |     |
| The Blind Man — St. John.....                  | 292 | Afton Water.....                              | 82  |
| <b>Blake, William, 1757-1828.</b>              |     | Bruce's Address.....                          | 107 |
| Laughing Song.....                             | 371 | For a' that, and a' that.....                 | 208 |
| <b>Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, 1806-1861.</b> |     | John Anderson, my Jo.....                     | 141 |
| Rhyme of the Duchess May.....                  | 388 | To Mary in Heaven.....                        | 93  |
| <b>Browning, Robert, 1812 —.</b>               |     | <b>Byrom, John, 1691-1763.</b>                |     |
| Hervé Riel.....                                | 184 | Three Black Crows, The.....                   | 104 |
| Incident of the French Camp.....               | 303 | <b>Byron, Lord, 1778-1824.</b>                |     |
| Memorabilia.....                               | 404 | Alpine Scenery.....                           | 206 |
| Prelude to Dramatic Idyls.....                 | 328 | Apostrophe to the Ocean.....                  | 341 |
| Prospect.....                                  | 307 | Battle of Waterloo, The.....                  | 234 |
| Rabbi Ben Ezra.....                            | 219 | To Thomas Moore.....                          | 135 |
| The Last Ride Together.....                    | 385 | <b>Campbell, Thomas, 1777-1844.</b>           |     |
| The Lost Leader.....                           | 417 | Lord Ullin's Daughter.....                    | 218 |
|  |     | Ye Mariners of England.....                   | 89  |



- Carlyle, Thomas, 1795-1881.**  
Sincerity in Speech ..... 79  
Victory of Truth..... 117
- Cary, Alice, 1822 —.**  
Pictures of Memory..... 404  
The Ferry of Gallaway..... 409
- Coleridge, Samuel, 1772-1834.**  
Mont Blanc before Sunrise..... 133
- Collins, William, 1721-1756.**  
Brave, The..... 260  
Passions, The..... 188
- Colman, George, 1762-1836.**  
Scene from "The Poor Gentle-  
man"..... 368
- Cornwall, Barry, 1790-1874.**  
Hunter's Song, The..... 121  
Sea, The..... 86
- Curtis, George W., 1824 —.**  
Patriotism ..... 151
- De Mille.**  
The American Senator in Italy.... 320
- Demosthenes, 384-322 B. C.**  
On the Crown..... 421
- DeQuincey, Thomas, 1785-1859.**  
Murder as a Fine Art..... 209
- Derzhaven, 1743-1816.**  
God ..... 148
- Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870.**  
Gabriel, the Contented Locksmith.. 84  
Nicholas Nickleby Leaving the  
Yorkshire School..... 399  
The Stage-Coach..... 332
- Dryden, John, 1631-1701.**  
Alexander's Feast..... 229
- Emerson, Ralph Waldo, 1803-1882.**  
Each and All..... 374  
The Titmouse..... 269
- Everett, Edward, 1794-1885.**  
Death of Copernicus..... 295  
Early Dawn and Sunrise..... 279

- Forest, Neil.**  
Mice at Play ..... 2
- Francis, Convers, 1796-1863.**  
Nature and God..... 2
- Goethe, 1749-1832.**  
The Erl-King ..... 2
- Goldsmith, Oliver, 1728-1774.**  
The Village Preacher..... 2  
The Village Schoolmaster..... 2
- Gray, Thomas, 1716-1771.**  
Elegy in a Country Churchyard... 2  
The Bard ..... 2
- Griffin, Gerald, 1803-1840.**  
Bridal of Malahide, The ..... 2
- Hall, Robert, 1764-1831.**  
The Bible..... 2
- Hawthorne, Nathaniel, 1804-1864.**  
A Rill from the Town Pump..... 2
- Heber, Reginald, 1783-1826.**  
Spring Journey, The ..... 2
- Hemans, Felicia D., 1794-1835.**  
Bernardo Del Carpio..... 2  
Fall of D'Assas ..... 2
- Henry, Patrick, 1736-1799.**  
America's Duty to Resist..... 2
- Hogg, James, 1772-1835.**  
Lark, The..... 2
- Holcroft, Thomas, 1745-1809.**  
Gaffer Gray ..... 2
- Holmes, Oliver W., 1809 —.**  
The Boys..... 2  
Union and Liberty..... 2
- Hood, Thomas, 1798-1845.**  
Bridge of Sighs, The..... 2  
Ode to My Infant Son,..... 2
- Hunt, Leigh, 1784-1859.**  
Glove and the Lions, The ..... 360
- Inglow, Jean, about 1830 —.**  
Echo and the Ferry..... 355  
High Tide, The..... 152  
Longing for Home..... 173  
Singing Lesson, The..... 364
- Irving, Washington, 1783-1859.**  
Voyage, The ..... 94
- Jonson, Ben, 1574-1637.**  
Hymn to Diana ..... 173
- Keats, John, 1796-1821.**  
Ode to a Nightingale..... 362  
Ode on the Poets..... 411
- Key, Francis Scott, 1779-1843.**  
The Star-Spangled Banner..... 294
- Kingsley, Chas., 1819-1875.**  
Sands of Dee..... 146  
The Old, Old Song..... 372
- Longfellow, Henry W., 1807-1882.**  
Brooklet, The..... 79  
Leap of Roushan Beg..... 407  
The Old Clock on the Stairs..... 309
- Macaulay, Thomas B., 1800-1859.**  
Horatius ..... 196  
Nature and Rules..... 160
- MacDonald, Geo., 1824 —.**  
Owl and the Bell, The..... 142
- Mackay, Charles, 1814-1890.**  
The Inquiry ..... 328
- Mahony, Francis, 1805-1866.**  
Bells of Shandon, The..... 114
- Marlowe.**  
The Passionate Shepherd to His  
Love..... 421
- Mickle, William J., 1734-1788.**  
The Sailor's Wife..... 331
- Miller, Emily Huntington.**  
The Bluebird ..... 183

- Milton, John, 1608-1674.**  
Gladness of Morning..... 83
- Moore, Thomas, 1779-1852.**  
The Minstrel Boy..... 336  
Those Evening Bells..... 381
- Newman, John H., 1801 —.**  
Lead, Kindly Light..... 375
- Normand, M. Jacques.**  
The Hat ..... 376
- Norton, Caroline, 1808-1877.**  
King of Denmark's Ride, The..... 175
- Peabody, E., 1807-1856.**  
Skaters' Song, The..... 366
- Phillips, Charles, 1789-1839.**  
Character of Napoleon..... 308
- Phillips, Wendell, 1811-1884.**  
Toussaint L'Ouverture..... 284
- Pierpont, John, 1785-1866.**  
Warren's Address at Bunker Hill.. 159
- Poe, Edgar Allan, 1811-1849.**  
The Bells..... 349  
The Raven..... 316
- Procter, Adelaide A., 1825-1864.**  
Legend of Bregenz, A..... 108
- Read, Thomas B., 1822-1872.**  
Rising in 1776, The..... 224
- Reade, Chas., 1814-1884.**  
Lark in Exile, The..... 122
- Robbins, Mrs. R. D. C.**  
Soldier's Reprieve, The ..... 201
- Robertson, Frederick W.,  
1816-1853.**  
Illusion and Delusion..... 313
- Ruskin, John, 1819 —.**  
Use and Abuse of Wealth..... 129



- Scott, Sir Walter, 1771-1832.**  
 Bonnets of Bonnie Dundee, The.. 223  
 Death of Marmion..... 236  
 Douglas to the Mob..... 359  
 Elizabeth and Leicester..... 139  
 Gathering Song of Donald the  
 Black..... 280  
 Helen to the Soldiers..... 255  
 Hunting Song..... 233  
 Lochinvar..... 106  
 Rosabelle..... 147
- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.**  
 Benedick and his Friends..... 264  
 Brutus and Cassius..... 288  
 Dogberry and Verges..... 344  
 Funeral of Julius Caesar..... 176  
 Hamlet's Instruction to the Player, 136  
 Henry IV. and Hotspur..... 256  
 Juliet drinking the Potion..... 199  
 Letter Scene from Macbeth..... 253  
 Opening Scene—Julius Caesar.... 115  
 Soliloquies from Hamlet..... 239  
 The Dream of Clarence..... 329  
 Wooing of Henry V., The..... 192
- Shelley, Percy Bysshe, 1792-1822.**  
 The Cloud..... 286  
 The Poet's Dream..... 394  
 The Spirit of Nature..... 415  
 To a Skylark..... 90  
 To the Night..... 308
- Sheridan, Richard B., 1751-1816.**  
 Scenes from "The Rivals"..... 167
- Southey, Robert, 1774-1843.**  
 After Blenheim..... 396  
 Test of a Bad Book..... 183
- Spenser, Edmund, 1553-1599.**  
 Lady Una and the Lion..... 372
- Stedman, Edmund C., 1833.**  
 The Undiscovered Country..... 361
- Taylor, Bayard, 1825-1878.**  
 Song of the Camp, The..... 200
- Taylor, Tom, 1817-1880.**  
 Sam's Letter. (From "Our American Cousins")..... 157
- Tennyson, Alfred, 1809 —.**  
 Break, Break, Break..... 17  
 Brook, The..... 17  
 Bugle Song..... 2  
 Charge of the Light Brigade..... 14  
 Lady Clara Vere de Vere..... 16  
 Lady Clare..... 12
- Thackeray, Wm. Makepeace, 1811-1863.**  
 Snobs..... 1
- Thaxter, Celia, 1835 —.**  
 The Sand-Piper..... 34
- Trench, Richard C., 1807-1886.**  
 Be Patient..... 32
- Trowbridge, J. T., 1827 —.**  
 How the King Lost His Crown.... 36  
 Midsummer..... 25  
 The Vagabonds..... 28
- Twain, Mark, 1835 —.**  
 The Interviewer..... 29
- Waller, John Francis, 1810 —.**  
 Spinning-Wheel Song, The..... 4
- Ware, William, 1797-1852.**  
 Zenobia to her Captor..... 40
- Webster, Daniel, 1782-1852.**  
 The Eloquence of Adams..... 25
- Whittier, John G., 1808 —.**  
 Kallundborg Church..... 418
- Wilson, John, 1785-1854.**  
 The Owl in the Graveyard..... 67
- Wolfe, Charles, 1791-1823.**  
 Burial of Sir John Moore, The.... 361
- Wordsworth, William, 1770-1850.**  
 By the Sea..... 369  
 England and Switzerland..... 327  
 Goody Blake and Harry Gill..... 248  
 Intimations of Immortality..... 243  
 Lines Written in early Spring.... 111  
 Lucy..... 165  
 Nature and the Poet..... 394  
 On Westminster Bridge..... 160  
 Tintern Abbey..... 381  
 To the Daisy..... 252  
 Worldliness..... 162

## ELEMENTAL PRAXIS.

## I.

I WANDERED lonely as a cloud  
 That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
 When all at once I saw a crowd,  
 A host of golden daffodils;  
 Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
 Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.  
 Continuous as the stars that shine  
 And twinkle on the milky-way,  
 They stretched in never-ending line  
 Along the margin of the bay:  
 Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
 Tossing their heads in sprightly dance

Wordsworth.

MERRILY swinging on brier and weed,  
 Near to the nest of his little dame,  
 Over the mountain-side or mead,  
 Robert of Lincoln is telling his name.

Bryant

ALL the air is full of song,  
 A carolling around and above;  
 From the wood-pigeon's call, so soft and long,  
 To the merriest twitter and marvellous trill  
 Every one sings at his own sweet will,  
 True to the key-note of joyous love.

SWEET bird! thy bower is ever green,  
 Thy sky is ever clear;  
 Thou hast no sorrow in thy song,  
 No winter in thy year!



Oh! could I fly, I'd fly with thee!  
 We'd make, with joyful wing,  
 Our annual visit o'er the globe,  
 Attendants on the spring.

Logan.

AND what is so rare as a day in June?  
 Then, if ever, come perfect days;  
 Then Heaven tries the earth if it be in tune,  
 And over it softly her warm ear lays:  
 Whether we look, or whether we listen,  
 We hear life murmur, or see it glisten,  
 Every clod feels a stir of might,  
 An instinct within it that reaches and towers,  
 And, groping blindly above it for light,  
 Climbs to a soul in grass and flowers;  
 The little bird sits at his door in the sun,  
 Atilt like a blossom among the leaves,  
 And lets his illumined being o'errun  
 With the deluge of summer it receives.

Lowell.

## II.

WHAT ho, my jovial mates! come on! we'll frolic it  
 Like fairies frisking in the merry moonshine!

Scott.

A SONG, oh a song for the merry May!  
 The cows in the meadow, the lambs at play,  
 A chorus of birds in the maple-tree  
 And a world in blossom for you and me.

GIVE us, O give us, the man who sings at his work! He will do  
 more in the same time, — he will do it better, — he will persevere longer.  
 One is scarcely sensible of fatigue whilst he marches to music. The  
 very stars are said to make harmony as they revolve in their spheres.  
 Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness, altogether past calculation  
 its powers of endurance. Efforts, to be permanently useful, must be  
 uniformly joyous, a spirit all sunshine, graceful from very gladness,  
 beautiful because bright.

Carlyle.

THE wind, one morning, sprang up from sleep,  
 Saying, "Now for a frolic! now for a leap!  
 Now for a madcap galloping chase!  
 I'll make a commotion in every place!"

AWAY with weary cares and themes!  
 Swing wide the moonlit gate of dreams!  
 Leave free once more the land which teems  
 With wonders and romances!  
 Where thou, with clear discerning eyes,  
 Shalt rightly read the truth which lies  
 Beneath the quaintly-masking guise  
 Of wild and wizard fancies.

Whittier.

THE budding twigs spread out their fan  
 To catch the breezy air;  
 And I must think, do all I can,  
 That there was pleasure there.

Wordsworth.

YOU must wake and call me early, call me early, mother dear;  
 To-morrow 'll be the happiest day of all the glad new year; —  
 Of all the glad new year, mother, the maddest, merriest day; —  
 For I'm to be Queen o' the May, mother, I'm to be Queen o' the May

Tennyson.

AND then my heart with pleasure fills,  
 And dances with the daffodils.

Wordsworth.

HASTE thee, Nymph, and bring with thee  
 Jest and youthful Jollity,  
 Quips and cranks and wanton wiles,  
 Nods and becks and wreathed smiles  
 Such as hang on Hebe's cheek,  
 And love to live in dimple sleek;  
 Sport that wrinkled Care derides,  
 And Laughter holding both his sides: —  
 Come, and trip it as ye go  
 On the light fantastic toe!

Milton.



## III.

NEAR the city of Sevilla, years and years ago,  
 Dwelt a lady in a villa, years and years ago;  
 And her hair was black as night,  
 And her eyes were starry bright;  
 Olives on her brow were blooming;  
 Roses red her lips perfuming;  
 And her step was light and airy  
 As the tripping of a fairy.  
 Ah! that lady of the villa, — and I loved her so,  
 Near the city of Sevilla, years and years ago.

O FOR a soft and gentle wind!  
 I heard a fair one cry;  
 But give to me the snoring breeze  
 And white waves heaving high;  
 And white waves heaving high, my lads,  
 The good ship tight and free;  
 The world of waters is our home,  
 And merry men are we.

Cunningham

'TIS the star-spangled banner, oh! long may it wave  
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Key

I NE'ER will ask ye quarter, and I ne'er will be your slave;  
 But I'll swim the sea of slaughter, till I sink beneath its wave!

Patten

## IV.

HARK, hark! the lark at heaven's gate sings,  
 And Phoebus 'gins arise,  
 His steeds to water at those springs  
 On chaliced flowers that lies;  
 And winking Mary-buds begin  
 To ope their golden eyes;  
 With every thing that pretty bin,  
 My lady sweet, arise;  
 Arise, arise!

Shakespeare.

THE splendor falls on castle walls,  
 And snowy summits old in story;  
 The long light shakes across the lakes,  
 And the wild cataract leaps in glory.

Tennyson.

INSECTS generally must lead a jovial life. Think what it must be to  
 lodge in a lily. Imagine a palace of ivory and pearl, with pillars of  
 silver and capitals of gold, and exhaling such a perfume as never arose  
 from human censer. Fancy again the fun of tucking one's self up for  
 the night in the folds of a rose, rocked to sleep by the gentle sighs of  
 summer air, nothing to do when you awake but to wash yourself in a  
 dew-drop, and fall to eating your bedclothes.

Waller

YOU bells in the steeple, ring, ring out your changes,  
 How many soever they be,  
 And let the brown meadow-lark's note as he ranges  
 Come over, come over to me.

Ingelow.

So when the sun in bed,  
 Curtain'd with cloudy red,  
 Pillows his chin upon an orient wave,  
 The flocking shadows pale  
 Troop to the infernal jail,  
 Each fetter'd ghost slips to his several grave.

Milton.

THROUGH this the well-belovèd Brutus stabb'd;  
 And as he pluck'd his cursèd steel away,  
 Mark how the blood of Cæsar follow'd it,  
 As rushing out of doors, to be resolved  
 If Brutus so unkindly knock'd, or no.

Shakespeare.

I CARE not, Fortune, what you me deny:  
 You cannot rob me of free Nature's grace;  
 You cannot shut the windows of the sky,  
 Through which Aurora shows her brightening face;  
 You cannot bar my constant feet to trace  
 The woods and lawns by living stream at eve.





The **Margaret Eaton School Digital Collection** is a not-for-profit resource created in 2014-2015 to assist scholars, researchers, educators, and students to discover the Margaret Eaton School archives housed in the Peter Turkstra Library at Redeemer University College. Copyright of the digital images is the property of Redeemer University College, Ancaster, Canada and the images may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email digital images for individual non-commercial use. To learn more about this project or to search the digital collection, go to <http://libguides.redeemer.ca/mes>.